Marine Products Export Development Authority

1959. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has been constituted by Government;

(b) the names of members of the MPEDA;

(c) whether it is a fact that the same firms and the same people have been nominated regularly on MPEDA;

(d) whether any effort would be made to ensure that such nominees get a break from being on the MPEDA Board; and

(e) the steps proposed to broad this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following are members of the present Authority as notified *vide* Notification dated 4.6.2002;

(1) Chairman, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA),

(2) Director, MPEDA,

(3) Three members of Parliament of which two from Lok Sabha (which are presently vacant) and one from Rajya Sabha.

(4) Four members representing Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Food Processing Industry.

(5) Twenty members from among persons representing:

(i) the Governments of the States of Union Territories have sea coast.

(ii) The interest of owners of fishing vessels, processing plants or storages premises for marine products and conveyances used for the transport of marine products.

(iii) The interests of dealers.

(iv) The interests of persons employed in research institutes engaged in the marine products industry.

(v) The interests of person employed in the marine products industry, and

(vi) Such other persons or class of persons who, in the opinion of the Central Government, ought to the represented on the Authority.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Normally the members of the Authority hold office for a period of three years from the date of publication of the Notification in the Official Gazette.

(e) The Authority is constituted as per the provisions of marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972 and Marine Products Export Development Authority Rules, 1972.

Differences between WTO Member countries

1960. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the member countries of the WTO are sharply divided over further reforms and liberalisation of agriculture particularly on the nature and extent of reduction in trade-distorting domestic support and improvements in market access;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent these differences have been ironed out in the Geneva Conference and in what manner and subject to what conditions the interests of agriculture sector of the developing countries have been protected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) In the ongoing negotiations on the world Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement on Agriculture, development Members have been calling for substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support and elimination by a credible end date of all forms of export subsidies by developed countries and substantial improvements in market access consistent with the Doha mandate on agriculture. Developed countries, in turn, have been wanting to lower the ambition in the required reform of their agricultural sector,